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Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**REPORT OF THE
BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYSIS GROUP (BPAWG)
TO THE UN/CEFACT PLENARY MAY 2002**

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Submitted by the Chair of BPAWG

This document has been submitted by the UN/CEFACT Business Analysis Working Group (BPAWG) for information.

Introduction

The Business Process Analysis Working Group (BPAWG) was established by the UN/CEFACT Steering Group (CSG) in August 1997 and approved as a UN/CEFACT permanent working group by the UN/CEFACT Plenary during its September 1997 meeting, as the Business Analysis Working Group (BAWG). This was changed to the Business Process Analysis Working Group (BPAWG) by the UN/CEFACT Plenary in March 1999.

The purpose of the BPAWG (as stated in its mandate) is to analyse functional business processes, to identify constraints that adversely impact on the mission and objectives of UN/CEFACT, and to propose appropriate changes to those business processes. The BPAWG will serve as a catalyst to meet UN/CEFACT's mission to "facilitate international transactions through the simplification and harmonisation of procedures and information flows, and so contribute to the growth of global commerce" by:

- analysing and understanding the key elements of international transactions and working for the elimination of constraints"; and
- promoting best practices through channels such as government, industry and service associations".

1. The Vision

To simplify, streamline and standardize functional business processes through the use of value chain principles and structured analysis.

2. Deliverables

Deliverables in support of the vision are:

- functional area models (requirements specifications) and diagrams with textual structured information describing the functional business processes and roles of players involved for submission to working groups for further detailed specification;
- proposals to resolve overlaps, redundancies, and bottlenecks identified during review analysis of completed working groups' models;
- reports containing proposals for guidance and use by working groups in developing solutions to discrepancies.

3. The BPAWG Reference Model of the International Supply Chain

(UN/CEFACT/BPAWG/BP044 – March 2002).

The earlier version of this model, **UN/CEFACT/BPAWG/BP015.Rev3-January 2001** whose aim had been to test the UN/CEFACT Modelling Methodology, based on the Purchasing Domain, was signed off at the Group's Washington meeting in March 2001.

Work then commenced on developing a BPAWG Reference Model of the International Supply Chain in order to model the many other business processes which make up the international supply chain, with particular reference to international trade.

The ultimate objective is to provide UN/CEFACT with a reference model which can support more detailed standardization work and trade facilitation actions within UN/CEFACT working groups.

4. Cooperation with UN/CEFACT Working Groups

4.1 EDIFACT Working Group (EWG)

The BPAWG attends the two EWG meetings held each year. A joint BPAWG/EWG Resolution was agreed in Chinese Taipei in September 2000 to establish official and joint channels of communication and joint working in agreed areas.

4.2 International Trade Procedures Working Group (ITPWG)

Where practicable, delegates from the two working groups attend each other's meetings in order to ensure that proper input on trade facilitation issues is made. The BPAWG is currently discussing with the ITPWG the modelling of the Single Window Concept.

5. BPAWG Development

In previous reports it had been noted, with regret, that there had been little participation in the Group from the Americas. During the year 2001 this situation changed dramatically with an influx of new members from the United States who had, for the most part, been active in the ebXML Project. The efforts of the Delegation of the United States to UN/CEFACT deserve recognition and thanks for having brokered this development.

6. eBTWG Projects

The business process analysis work in the BPAWG and that carried out in the ebXML project were found to be remarkably complimentary. As a consequence two projects were proposed by BPAWG to be carried out under the e Business Transition Working Group:

- Catalogue of Common Business Processes;
- Business Collaboration and Monitored Commitment Project.

7. Future Developments

The BPAWG has been fully involved in the development of the Proposal for Future Structure and Organisation of the UN/CEFACT Permanent Working Groups.
